Scene 1

It was finally here!! Maya’s 13th birthday was just around the corner. Not only was her mother allowing her to throw a huge party to celebrate her entrance into her teen years, but she was also letting her plan the whole thing, with some guidance of course. There were so many things to do! Maya had never planned a party this big before and she wanted it to be as special as possible. Her mother, Mrs. Drake, had given her a budget of $200 to spend on her party. However, before Maya could purchase anything, she had to show her mother a spreadsheet of her spending. Maya picked up the phone and immediately organized her planning crew of her three best friends, Anna, Phillip, and Cari. They decided to meet that afternoon at 2:30 to start making arrangements for what was sure to be the best 13th birthday party event.

Anna, Phillip, and Cari arrived at Maya’s house at 2:30, right on time! Maya had snacks and soft drinks set out to enjoy while they worked. She also had newspaper ads, phone books, and her laptop on the table to use as they planned.

“Wow!” exclaimed Anna. “It looks like you have everything we need to plan a great birthday party!”

“Yeah,” Phillip chimed in. “I think we might have our work cut out for us.”

“I know, I know,” said Maya. “But I really want to make this party great and I thought we might need some resources to help us find the best deals for our budget.”

“Well, let’s quit standing here and get to work!” shouted Cari. She was always one to get people motivated and moving.

“Ok, but where do we start?” asked Anna.

“My mom gave me $200 to spend so we need to come up with a plan that can help us stretch our dollars,” answered Maya.

Phillip eyes grew wide and shouted, “Oh! I know! Cari’s sister owns an event planning company. Maybe we should ask her?”

Cari smiled and replied, “No worries, my friends. I am two steps ahead of you.”

**Group Discussion Points:**

**What do you know? What do you need to know? Where can you get this knowledge?**

**Where should Maya and her friends start with their planning?**

Scene 3

Maya and her friends gathered around the dining room table with the snacks and research materials. Cari pulled out a piece of paper for all to see.

“Here is a list my sister gave me that includes everything we need for the perfect party!” Cari passed a copy of her list to everyone. It read:

Party Must Haves:

1. Invitations
2. Decorations (balloons, streamers, lights, etc.)
3. Cake and food
4. Music
5. Games
6. Party favors

“Perfect!” Maya exclaimed. “These are just the items I thought we might need.”

“This all looks great, but where do we find these things? What do we do now?” asked Anna.

“First things first! We eat! Our brains will function much better after we feed them!” suggested Phillip. He moved the phone books, laptop, and newspaper ads out of the way and prepared a plate.

**What do you know? What do you need to know? Where can you get this knowledge?**

**How will Maya and her friends stay within their budget?**

**Scene 2**

The snacks were picked through and the soda was halfway gone. It was time to really get down to business. Maya, Annie, Cari, and Phillip went to work using their resources to find prices for the party items.

After a couple of hours of searching, they each found what they were looking for and put the information in a chart.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ITEMS | POLLY’S PARTY PLACE | FREDDY’S FUN IMPORIUM |
| Invitations | $3.99/10 | $4.99/15 |
| Balloons/Decorations | $20/balloon and streamer bundle | $30/balloons, streamers, and table clothes |
| Cake and Food | $30/15 people | $30/15 people |
| Music | $75/hr for DJ Mo’ Music | Not available |
| Games | $25/piñata, Pin the Tail on the Donkey, and face painting | $50/piñata, face painting, and bounce house |
| Party Favors | $15/set of 20 favors | $15/set of 20 favors |

“Well, I like what I see. Although, I am 13 now so I want everyone at my party to fell like they are at a 13 year old party and not a little kid’s party,” Maya said.

“How many people do you want to invite?” asked Anna.

“I am sending out 40 invitations,” replied Maya.

**Take what you know and plan a party that will stay within Maya’s $200 budget and meet her needs. Good luck!**